

to see this bill on the Suspension Calendar.

As Mr. CONYERS has mentioned, we have not had a wonderful record here in the 109th Congress of doing the right thing to protect children from sexual predators. Let's not compound that problem by enacting this bill today. I urge all of us to vote against it.

And I will say also that in the 110th Congress we should work in a proper way to achieve the goals of supporting Little League and the other organizations, while not letting down the children of our Nation and letting them be victimized by child molesters and sexual predators.

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of the time.

Madam Speaker, I think this is an example about the way this place does business. On a bipartisan basis we passed the Adam Walsh Bill and that was signed into law by the President at the end of July. And that was the single greatest protection of children law that had been passed by the Congress in decades. And I was the author of that legislation. I worked with people on both sides of the aisle and on both sides of the Capitol, and I think that this was a really great accomplishment of this Congress. And it shows what can happen when people work in a bipartisan manner.

Now, we get to this bill after the election is over with, and there has been a change of control on both sides of the Capitol. I don't think that it can be disputed that the volunteers who set the rules of play should be exempted from liability. Now, these are the people that write the rule book. You know, they are not the people that actually coach the kids. They are not the people who make the equipment. They are not the people who provide the playing fields and either maintain them properly or don't maintain them properly. They are the ones that write the rule book. And a lot of the rules for amateur sports, whether it is at the high school or college or intramural level or whatever, those rules are designed to protect to the greatest extent possible the kids who compete in those sports, and that is what this bill is designed to protect.

Now, I think that the complaints that were made by my friends on the other side of the aisle, that this bill could have been interpreted to provide immunity or a limitation of liability on those who commit acts of sexual assault or sexual molestation or sexual harassment against the kids were legitimate. And that is why the bill is amended.

Now, when this bill was put on the Suspension Calendar last week by the leadership, we circulated an amendment to the minority party. We gave them the proposed language that is being debated and disputed early yesterday morning, and we never heard

from them. And we followed up several times yesterday by staff to get their comments, and we never got any comments. We tried again this morning before this bill came up and never got any comments as well. The first we heard about their opposition to the legislation and the letters that have been cited by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. ZOE LOFGREN) was when we got to the floor today.

Now, that is their prerogative to do that, as it is the prerogative of any Member of this House, whether in the majority or in the minority. But the fact is that what we have heard from the other side of the aisle is designed to defeat this legislation altogether, as it was in the 108th Congress. And that would be a shame, because defeating this legislation is only going to hurt the volunteers who are making rules to protect children, rather than to protect people who might commit sexual offenses against them. We ought to protect the volunteers who make those rules, those volunteers who write the rule book, and the associations that bring those volunteers together so that kids can enjoy sports and play and learn the value of competition and the value of fair play. And if you can't get volunteers to write the rule book, then you are not going to be able to have kids' sports at all. So let's put the kids first and pass this bill.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1176, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those voting have responded in the affirmative.

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

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GENEVA DISTINCTIVE EMBLEMS PROTECTION ACT OF 2006

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6338) to amend title 18, United States Code, to prevent and repress the misuse of the Red Crescent distinctive emblem and the Third Protocol (Red Crystal) distinctive emblem.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 6338

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Geneva Distinctive Emblems Protection Act of 2006".

SEC. 2. GENEVA DISTINCTIVE EMBLEMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 33 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 706 the following:

“§ 706a. Geneva distinctive emblems

“(a) Whoever wears or displays the sign of the Red Crescent or the Third Protocol Emblem (the Red Crystal), or any insignia colored in imitation thereof for the fraudulent purpose of inducing the belief that he is a member of or an agent for an authorized national society using the Red Crescent or the Third Protocol Emblem, the International Committee of the Red Cross, or the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 6 months, or both.

“(b) Except as set forth in section (c) and (d), whoever, whether a corporation, association, or person, uses the emblem of the Red Crescent or the Third Protocol Emblem on a white ground or any sign or insignia made or colored in imitation thereof or the designations ‘Red Crescent’ or ‘Third Protocol Emblem’ shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 6 months, or both.

“(c) The following may use such emblems and designations consistent with the Geneva Conventions of August 12, 1949, and, if applicable, the Additional Protocols:

“(1) Authorized national societies that are members of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and their duly authorized employees and agents.

“(2) The International Committee of the Red Cross and its duly authorized employees and agents.

“(3) The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and its duly authorized employees and agents.

“(4) The sanitary and hospital authorities of the armed forces of State Parties to the Geneva Conventions of August 12, 1949.

“(d) This section does not make unlawful the use of any such emblem, sign, insignia, or words which was lawful on or before December 8, 2005, if such use would not appear in time of armed conflict to confer the protections of the Geneva Conventions of August 12, 1949, and, if applicable, the Additional Protocols.

“(e) A violation of this section or section 706 may be enjoined at the civil suit of the Attorney General.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 33 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 706 the following new item:

“706a. Geneva distinctive emblems.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 6338 currently under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Wisconsin?

There was no objection.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 6338, the Geneva Distinctive Emblems Protection Act of 2006. Introduced by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE), this legislation will assist in the implementation of important humanitarian programs. The Geneva Convention has long provided for the use of the Red Cross and Red Crescent emblems by governments and national societies to implement medical and humanitarian programs.

In December of 2005, the Geneva Convention, through the Third Additional Protocol, adopted a third distinctive emblem, the Red Crystal, to join the Red Cross and Red Crescent emblems. The adoption of the Red Crystal emblem cleared the path, with the acceptance of Israel's version of the Red Cross, into the Red Cross and Red Crescent movement after being excluded for more than 30 years.

The approval of the Red Crystal emblem provides the American Red Cross, United States military personnel and humanitarian organizations and workers with another option in the circumstances where the Red Cross or the Red Crescent may not be perceived as a neutral emblem. On the day of its adoption, 27 countries, including the United States, signed the Third Additional Protocol.

Since its adoption, the protocol has been signed by more than 49 other nations and becomes effective on January 14, 2007. Current United States law prohibits anyone, including corporations and associations, from wearing or displaying the American National Red Cross emblem or similar insignia for fraudulent purposes. This bill extends these same prohibitions and protections to the Red Crystal emblem and to the Red Crescent emblem by imposing a fine or a prison term for up to 6 months for fraudulently wearing or displaying the Red Crystal and Red Crescent emblems.

This legislation will help deter the fraudulent use of vital symbols of medical and humanitarian aid. I urge my colleagues to join together to pass this bipartisan legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

I am pleased to join with the chairman in supporting this bipartisan bill. The legislation makes a simple yet extremely important change to current law. It adds the Red Crystal emblem to the list of officially recognized symbols that may be used to denote humanitarian or religious relief efforts. As many know, currently only the Red Cross and Red Crescent emblems are used by humanitarian workers when caring for sick or injured civilians or Armed Forces members overseas.

By adding the Red Crystal symbol to the list of officially recognized emblems, humanitarian workers will have at their disposal yet another symbol that is acceptable in those regions of

the world where the cross and crescent are viewed with some level of skepticism.

I would like to thank Mr. FLAKE and the countless number of Democratic members of our committee for taking the lead on this issue, and I strongly urge that my colleagues lend their support to this commonsense proposal.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE), the author of the bill.

Mr. FLAKE. I thank the chairman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the speed with which this was brought to the floor. This is something the State Department and the administration has asked for. It will allow ratification of a Third Geneva Protocol and protect, as has been said, the Red Crescent as well as the Red Crystal.

This is important, as has been explained, so that those wearing the emblem can be protected in dangerous situations and battlefields, and we can encourage other countries to do the same and offer the same recognition. Again, I thank those who have on a bipartisan basis supported this legislation.

I will not repeat what this does. It has been aptly explained by the chairman and the ranking minority member. I just wish to thank those who have brought this to the floor for doing so and urge its adoption.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TERRY). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6338.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds of those voting having responded in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SOUTHERN IDAHO BUREAU OF RECLAMATION REPAYMENT ACT OF 2006

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5666) to authorize early repayment of obligations to the Bureau of Reclamation within the A & B Irrigation District in the State of Idaho, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 5666

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Southern Idaho Bureau of Reclamation Repayment Act of 2006".

SEC. 2. EARLY REPAYMENT OF A & B IRRIGATION DISTRICT CONSTRUCTION COSTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 213 of the Reclamation Reform Act of 1982 (43

U.S.C. 390mm), any landowner within the A & B Irrigation District in the State (referred to in this Act as the "District") may repay, at any time, the construction costs of District project facilities that are allocated to land of the landowner within the District.

(b) APPLICABILITY OF FULL-COST PRICING LIMITATIONS.—On discharge, in full, of the obligation for repayment of all construction costs described in subsection (a) that are allocated to all lands the landowner owns in the District in question, the parcels of land shall not be subject to the ownership and full-cost pricing limitations under Federal reclamation law (the Act of June 17, 1902 (32 Stat. 388, chapter 1093), and Acts supplemental to and amendatory of that Act (43 U.S.C. 371 et seq.), including the Reclamation Reform Act of 1982 (13 U.S.C. 390aa et seq.).

(c) CERTIFICATION.—On request of a landowner that has repaid, in full, the construction costs described in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Interior shall provide to the landowner a certificate described in section 213(b)(1) of the Reclamation Reform Act of 1982 (43 U.S.C. 390mm(b)(1)).

(d) EFFECT.—Nothing in this Act—

(1) modifies any contractual rights under, or amends or reopens, the reclamation contract between the District and the United States; or

(2) modifies any rights, obligations, or relationships between the District and landowners in the District under Idaho State law.*Z! EXT .048 ..HOUSE... K05DE7 PERSONAL COMPUTER*049060-K05DE7-048-*****-Payroll No.: -Name: -Folios: - -Date: mmdyy -Subformat:

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH) and the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 5666, sponsored by our colleague, MIKE SIMPSON, allows for the early repayment of capital costs associated with a Federal water project in Idaho. Under existing law, landowners who benefit from this water project cannot prepay the capital costs they owe to the Federal Government.

This bill gives the Bureau of Reclamation the ability to accept prepayment from these landowners. This legislation benefits the American taxpayer because it allows early revenue to flow to the U.S. Treasury, and it helps local landowners by reducing their debt.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill because it is a commonsense bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.